

S M I T H F I E L D
HISTORY & MISC.

BLE OF WIGHT LIBRARY
SMITHFIELD BRANCH

Smithfield, Va Arthur Smith + wife E. T.

1 Joe. Bridger

2 Rich Parker - Cabinet Maker

3 Edw. Archer of Norfolk, Merchant

4 And. Buchanan Esq + Co. Merchts of Glasgow

5 Joseph Calcutt

6 Wm Rand

7 Henry Woodley

8

9 John Mallory - Mariner

10 Saml. Wentworth

11 Ethel Taylor + son

12 John Heyndman

13 Saml Wilson

14 Edw. Goddick

15

16

17 Miles Cary, Jr Atty

18 John Reid

19 Wm Rand

20 Joe. Arthur

21 Wm Dunlop, Arthur Symm Co. Merchts of Glasgow

22 Smith Waugh

23

24 Henry Woodley

23-

26 Joz. Bridger

27 Miles W. Ns

28 Wm Dunlop + Andrew Symms Co

29 John Hyndman

30 ✓ L- (John Reid)

31 Matthew Jones

32 Chas. Stuart of Norfolk, Mercht.

33

34

35-

36 Joz. Baker - Ordinary Keeper

37

38 John Reid

39

40

41 Jna Millerz, Mercht of Norfolk.

42 John Day

43 Tho. Woodley, Sr.

44 Chas Stewart

45 Wm. Heret

46 John Day

47 Wm Dunlop, and Symms + Co.

48 ✓ L

49 Edw. Godrich

50 Saml. Browne

51 Exumsett, merch of dance.

52 Jas. Ridley

53 Moses Almond

54

15-162

55

~~9-515~~

56

~~14-127~~

57 Allen & Ref. Cooke.

58 Geo. Wilson

59 Wm Harrison

60 Edw. Goodrich

61 Edw. Goodrich

62 Wm Dunlop + Andrew Symme Co

63 ✓

64 John Mallory, Mariner

65 Chas Stewart, John Miller + John Heyndman Merch

66 Arthur Applewhite

9-76

67 Jas. Arthur

68 ✓

69 Saml. Browne

70 Saml. Wentworth

71

72 Saml. Wentworth Joseph Jones(?)

73

74

Old Town

Half a mile north
stood the War. Indian
village. John Smith obtained
corn there for the starving
colonist in 1608. The War.
took part in the massacre
of 1622 & their village
was destroyed in 1632.
In 1680 Old Town was
established.

La H. H. marker.

Smithfield

Wm Hewitt - Co of Granville
Prov. of N.C - 30th of

in S. # 45 - 8-3-1758

Wm Saml. Wentworth

Jos. Bridger

Wm. Robertson

D Bb 103rd B. p 33

John Reed & wife
Mary To Saml. Wentworth
38. 1758 P. 33

C. B. Hayden

CODE

REVISED ORDINANCES

ADOPTED BY THE

TOWN COUNCIL

OF THE

Corporation of Smithfield

ON THE 26TH DAY OF JUNE, 1874.

SUFFOLK, VIRGINIA:

PRINTED AT THE CHRISTIAN SUN BOOK AND JOB OFFICE.

1874.

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ORDINANCES.

CHAPTER I.—RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.

Sec. 1. In the construction of this and all future Ordinances, the following rules shall be observed, unless such construction would be inconsistent with the manifest intention of the Ordinance:

(1) A word importing the singular number shall apply to several persons or things, and a word importing the plural number shall apply to one person or thing. A word importing the masculine gender shall apply to all of the same species, without reference to sex or age. The word "*person*" shall be applicable to bodies politic and corporate, as well as to natural persons.

(2) The word "*Justice*" shall comprehend the Mayor, an Alderman, and any Magistrate of the county.

(3) The word "*street*," shall comprehend every street or lane in the town, public or private.

(4) When a notice is required to be given, or an act to be done a certain length of time before proceeding can be had, the day on which such notice is given, or act done, shall be counted in computing the time. But the day on which such proceeding is to be had, shall not be counted.

Sec. 2. No new Ordinance shall be construed to repeal a former one, unless so stated specially in the new Ordinance.

Sec. 3. When any Ordinance which reveals another shall be repealed, the previous one shall not be revived, unless so stated.

Sec. 4. No Ordinance shall be amended, suspended, or repealed, except by Ordinance.

CHAPTER II.—TOWN COUNCIL.

Sec. 1. The *official* year of this Corporation shall begin on the first day of July, and the *fiscal* year on the first day of January, in every year. The regular meetings shall be

held on the *first* Tuesday of every month, between the hours of 8 A. M. and 1 P. M., and special meetings may be convened at any time by the Mayor, or by the summons of *three* Aldermen. For failing to attend any meeting, regular or special, when duly summoned, a member, or other officer, without good excuse, shall pay a fine of *fifty* cents.

Sec. 2. At the first meeting held on or after the 1st day of July next succeeding their election and qualification, the Council shall elect from its members a Treasurer and a Secretary (and one and the same person may hold both); and from the electors of the town a Town Sergeant, Commissioner of the Revenue, Collector, and a Surveyor of Streets, (and the same person may hold the *four* offices), whose term shall be for *one* year, or during the will of the Council, and until their successors are elected and qualified.

Sec. 3. The Council shall judge of the returns, and of the election and qualification of those returned; and its powers to fine and expel members, to suspend and remove its officers, to order new elections, and to supply vacancies, are fully prescribed in Chapter 54 of the Code of Virginia, 1873.

Sec. 4. The place of holding town elections and meetings of the Council shall be fixed by Ordinance. At the regular meeting in January, *annually*, the Council shall determine the sum total necessary to be appropriated for defraying the expenses of the Corporation during the ensuing fiscal year, and to cover any deficiency of the preceding year; on which, as a premise, the Council shall proceed to lay a levy on the real and personal property of the town, and assess on any business for which, by law, a license may be required, licenses, for raising a revenue sufficient to meet the several appropriations decided to be requisite for the year.

Sec. 5. With the unanimous consent of the Council, a non-resident may be appointed a town officer.

Sec. 6. Upon legal information of the violation of an Ordinance, it shall be the duty of the Mayor, or an Alderman, to summon the offender to appear and answer. All fines, forfeitures, and penalties imposed by Ordinance, if for a less sum than *twenty* dollars (\$20), shall be recovered by warrant; and if the sum be greater than \$20, by action or motion in a Court of Record. In the absence, vacancy in the office, or other cause of inability of the Town Sergeant to act, process under Ordinance or State law may be executed by the Sheriff or a Constable of the county.

Sec. 7. A violation of an Ordinance, if committed in the presence or sight of the Mayor, or Alderman, the offender shall be forthwith arrested, if practicable; otherwise, by warrant or summons to appear and answer.

CHAPTER III.—TOWN OFFICERS.

Sec. 1. The Mayor and Aldermen, before assuming office, shall qualify before a proper municipal or county officer, by taking the oath required by law; and other town officer, in addition to taking the oath of office, shall severally execute bonds, with sufficient security, in a penalty prescribed by the Council, conditioned for the faithful discharge of his official duties; and the taking and executing said oaths and bonds shall be entered on the journal. Any officer who shall perform any official act previous to such qualification as this section requires, shall forfeit and pay *ten* dollars (\$10) for each offence.

Sec. 2. With the consent of the Council, and subject to its removal a town officer who is not a member of the Council, may appoint a deputy, for whose acts his principal shall be held responsible.

CHAPTER IV.—TREASURER.

Sec. 1. The official bond of the Treasurer shall be in the penalty of not less than double the sum of his probable annual receipts—to be delivered to the Secretary, and its receipt noted on the journal. The Treasurer shall receive all moneys payable into the town treasury, and disburse the same by order of the Council, signed by the Mayor, and countersigned by the Secretary. Under the direction of the Council, he shall provide books and stationary necessary for his official duties.

Sec. 2. The Treasurer shall be allowed for his services *five per centum* on the annual amount received by him, payable at the expiration of his official term. And for any violation of the provisions of this Chapter, not amounting to felony or misdemeanor, he shall forfeit a sum double the damage incurred, recoverable on his official bond, by action or motion in a Court of Record, or before a Justice.

CHAPTER V.—SECRETARY.

Sec. 1. The Secretary shall attend *all* meetings of the Council; shall enter on his journal a fair record of its pro-

ceedings; have the custody of all books, papers, records, blanks and stationary belonging or relating to the Corporation; provide, when so directed, books and stationary necessary for the uses of the Council, and suitable for his official duties; furnish the Commissioner of the Revenue with the proper assessment books, make out and deliver to the Collector all tax bills, license certificates, and other levies; issue, when properly directed, licenses and summonses; and prepare advertisements, notices, and other public writings properly ordered.

Sec. 2. The Secretary shall be allowed for his services *five per centum* on the annual amount received into the treasury, payable at the expiration of his official term; and for failing to attend any meeting of the Council, without satisfactory excuse, may be fined fifty cents; and for violating any other provision of this Chapter, shall forfeit double the damage incurred, recoverable by action at law.

CHAPTER VI.—TOWN SERGEANT.

Sec. 1. His official bond shall be in the penalty of *five* hundred dollars.

Sec. 2. Within the corporate limits, and for one mile beyond, his jurisdiction, powers, duties, liabilities and fees are the same as those of Constables. Five days previous to any municipal election, he shall post notices at *three* or more places in the town, stating the time and place of the same, and receive *fifty* cents for each notice. He shall conduct the town elections, preserve peace and good order at and about the same, and make proper returns thereof to the Council.

CHAPTER VII.—COMMISSIONER OF THE REVENUE.

Sec. 1. His official bond shall be in the penalty of *six* hundred dollars. He shall perform all the duties, exercise all the powers, and be liable to all the penalties prescribed by the act of incorporation, the general laws of the Commonwealth, the existing or any future Ordinances passed by the Council.

Sec. 2. On or before the first day of February, annually, the Secretary shall furnish him with books properly arranged for his duties, when he shall proceed to assess all the subjects within the limits of the corporation, on which the Council has ordained a tax to be levied, or a license to

be granted for the next succeeding fiscal year; and he shall complete the same, and deliver his books to the Mayor or Secretary on or before the first day of March following.

Sec. 3. All persons liable to be assessed and listed, shall, on data or affirmation, when called on by the Commissioner of the Revenue, give such list as the Ordinance specifies, and exhibit the property if required; and for a refusal to comply with these provisions, or any other Ordinances, or the laws of the State relating thereto, and especially those laid down in Chapters 32, 33, and 34 of the Code of 1873, the delinquent shall forfeit and pay not less than *five* nor more than *twenty* dollars.

Sec. 4. The Commissioner of the Revenue shall receive for his services the sum of *two* dollars for each day necessarily employed on these duties; and for failing to perform any duty required of him by this Chapter, the laws of the State, or the Charter and Ordinances of the town, he shall forfeit all right to compensation.

CHAPTER VIII.—COLLECTOR

Sec. 1. He shall execute a bond in the penalty of not less than double the amount of his *probable* annual collections.

Sec. 2. The Secretary shall deliver to the Collector on or before the first day of May, annually, and take his receipt for the same, the tax bills, town levies, and any other claims due the corporation, which he shall forthwith proceed to collect after *five* days' public notice, given by advertisement at the Mayor's office and two or more suitable places, that he will receive the town taxes and dues at his office, or place of business, *daily*, between the hours of 10 o'clock A. M. and 3 P. M., from the first day of May until the first day of July following.

Sec. 3. On all taxes, levies, and other claims which remain unpaid after the first day of July, *five per centum* on the amount of each shall be added; and the Collector shall collect the principal and *premium* by levy, distress, garnishee, or otherwise, as the law directs. Any loss to the town treasury, arising from delay or neglect of the Collector unless he satisfactorily shows the collection of any such claim to have been impracticable, shall be reimbursed by the Collector.

Sec. 4. At each monthly meeting the Collector shall pay

over to the Treasurer, and in his absence to the Mayor or Council, all moneys he may have collected to that date. And on or before the regular meeting in July of each year, he shall settle his transactions of the preceding fiscal year with the Treasurer, Mayor, or Council. For all taxes and levies against insolvents and non-residents, properly returned and certified, the Collector shall have credit on his receipt.

Sec. 5. The Collector shall receive for his services *five per centum* on the amount collected during his term; and for failing to perform any duty required of him by this Charter, the laws of the State, the Charter or Ordinances of the town, he shall forfeit all rights to compensation.

CHAPTER IX.—SURVEYOR OF STREETS.

Sec. 1. He shall execute a bond in the penalty of not less than double the amount and value of the money and property that may be under his control during his official term.

Sec. 2. All male residents of the town, not exempt by law, shall be compelled to work on the streets *two* days of each year, in person or by substitute, with such tools and implements as the Surveyor may direct. Provided, that any such person may elect, in *lieu* of personal service, when election can be made on or before the first summons for street duty in any year, to pay an annual street tax of one dollar and fifty cents (\$1.50).

Sec. 3. Annually, on or before the first day of March, the Commissioner of the Revenue shall furnish the Surveyor of Streets with a list of all the residents of the town who are liable by law to road duty; and at such times as he may think necessary, not exceeding two days in any one year, he shall notify each one on the list of the days he will require his services, and the implement he must use. For every day on which there may be a failure to obey such notice and summons, the person in default, his parent or guardian, shall pay *eighty* cents—recoverable before the Mayor, Alderman, or Justice—to be applied to the improvement of the streets.

Sec. 4. The Surveyor shall cause the streets to be kept in good order, smooth and clear of obstructions, well drained, and the width ordained by the Council; order the removal, by the person who caused it, of any nuisance or obstruction from the streets and gutters, and in default,

cause the same to be removed at the expense of the offender, with *twenty-five per centum* additional on the cost of removal. He shall enter and examine any premises, out-houses and other buildings, on or in which he believes any unhealthful or offensive matters to exist, and order their removal. If any person obstruct or hinder him in the discharge of this duty, he may be fined not more than *five* dollars; and for failing to abate a nuisance on his premises, after legal notice received, not more than *two* dollars for every twenty-four hours, or fraction thereof, of its continuance, with the cost of recovering each.

CHAPTER X.—STREETS AND PUBLIC PLACES.

Sec. 1. The streets of this corporation shall be known and designated by the following names, viz:

Main—Running from the County Wharf S. 52½°, W. to the boundary line.

Church—From Main street, S.S.E. to an angle on the lot of Geo. R. Atkinson.

East Church—From the eastern terminus of Church street, E. to Purdie's bridge.

Mason—From Main street, S.E. by E. to the line of Dr. Jas. B. Southall's heirs.

Pierce—From Main street, N.W. by W. to the line of James Thomas.

Hill—From the southern back line of the property of R. A. Todd, S.W. by W. to Cocke's lane.

Cedar—From Mason street, N. to Church street.

Canal—From East Church street, S. to the line of Fillmore Jordan, at the Little creek.

Wharf—From East Church street, N. to Pagan creek.

Cove—From Main street, N.W. by W. to the line of the property purchased by Geo. T. Clarke of the representative of Sampson White.

Smith—From Main street, S.E. by E. between the lots of Wm. Drummond and O. C. Goodrich to corporation line; or, the intersection of Cocke's lane.

Cocke's Lane—From Main street, S.E. by E. between the lands of Misses Irene and Louisiana Hayden and Wm. Drummond, to the northern line of the Misses Hayden; or, the southern limit of the corporation.

Commerce—From Main street, near its beginning at the County Wharf, N.W. by N., N. by E., and North, to

the northern boundary of the corporation at the causeway leading to Pierce's bridge.

All which streets are more fully defined in the survey and plan of the town, made and recorded as required.

Sec. 2. It is ordained that the following offences shall be classed as nuisances, and severally punishable as is hereunto specified:

(1.) Obstructing any street, sidewalk, public or private bridge, culvert, drain, sewer or gutter; on conviction, the offender to be fined not less than \$1 nor more than \$5. After legal notice to remove the obstruction, each twenty-four hours, or fraction thereof, is deemed a distinct offense. And it is further ordained that to ride, drive or lead a horse, ox or mule, with or without a vehicle, on a sidewalk; or to permit *either* to stand on a sidewalk, except in the reasonable delivering of passengers or a load, is an obstruction in the meaning and purport of this paragraph.

(2.) Riding or driving rapidly or carelessly in the street, to the danger of person or property; to attempt to break or tame a young or wild animal to gear, harness or saddle, in the street; not less than *two* nor more than *ten* dollars.

(3.) Allowing a vehicle drawn by one or more animals to pass on the street without a driver or leader, the owner (and in his absence the person who has charge of the team) shall pay *one* dollar.

(4.) Permitted a horse or mule to range beyond the enclosed premises of the owner, for each offense two dollars; a bull, ox or cow, one dollar; and a hog, goat, or sheep, *fifty cents*. Provided, that until otherwise ordered, milch cows, whose owners are residents, may range the unclosed parts of the town without fine, from the hours of sunrise to sunset.

(5.) Suffering an animal known to be dangerous or mischievous to go at large in the town, *two* dollars. And after legal notice, if this offence be continued, the Mayor or an Alderman may order the animal to be killed; and a fee of *one dollar* shall be paid by the owner to the officer for executing the order.

(6.) Suffering a female dog, *when in heat*, to appear outside her owner's premises, *five* dollars; and any such slut is hereby *outlawed*, and may be killed with impunity by any one disposed to do so.

The owner, occupier or tenant of any premises on which the animals named in this Chapter usually frequent, are held as their responsible owners.

(7.) To discharge or explode any firearms, loaded, in part with or without ball or shot, except it be to kill or capture a rabid or ferocious animal, or in firing a military salute; or to explode or fire off any gunpowder, rocket, pop-cracker or other fireworks, explosive or combustible articles in the street; for each offense, not less than \$1 nor more than \$5.

(8.) Exposing the person indecently, by bawling or otherwise, in open day; committing an indecent act in a public or exposed place; writing or making obscene words, drawings, figures or marks, on any enclosure, wall, house, or boat in the town; not less than \$1 nor more than \$5 for each offense.

Sec. 3. Any person who shall endeavor, by force or words, to prevent or obstruct the execution of any provision of this Chapter, shall forfeit, for each offence, not less than *one* nor more than *ten* dollars. And each of the penalties named in this or any other Chapter of these Ordinances, shall be independent of any liability incurred for damages by a violation of their provisions, by action or prosecution under the laws of the State.

Sec. 4. It shall be the duty of the Surveyor of Streets, or any police officer, to take up and impound, when *practicable* any animal named in this Chapter, going at large, or ranging the streets or other unenclosed parts of the town else, to give information of any violation of this Chapter to the Mayor, or an Alderman. And it is the duty of every good citizen, when any Ordinance is violated, to make information and complaint of the same.

Either of said animals, when taken up or impounded, may be redeemed by the owner, or his agent, on payment of the prescribed *fine*, a *fee* of fifty cents to the officer, and a fair compensation for feeding the animal whilst in his custody. Provided, that if it be not properly redeemed after *ten* days' public notice, the arresting officer shall sell the same to the highest bidder for *cash*, and pay over the proceeds of sale, after deducting his fees and the expenses of arrest and sale, to the Treasurer, Mayor or Council.

CHAPTER XI.—NUISANCES.

Sec. 1. In addition to the offenses named and prohibited as nuisances in Chapter X, no person residing in this corporation shall suffer to remain on his premises any unhealthy or offensive matters; and for failing to abate the

same, after receiving legal notice, he shall forfeit and pay two dollars for every twenty-four hours, or fraction thereof, of its continuance, and the costs of recovery.

Sec. 2. Ashes, dirt and rubbish, provided they are not offensive to health or the senses, may be deposited in the carriage way near the gutter, and opposite the lot whence removed; but if not removed from the street after five days' notice, they shall be forfeited to the town, and used as the Council may direct. Materials for building purposes may, under the instructions and direction of the Surveyor of Streets, be deposited in the street, near the site to be built on, for a reasonable time, without fine or forfeiture.

CHAPTER XII.—FINES, FORFEITURES AND PENALTIES.

Sec. 1. All fines, forfeitures and penalties imposed by the Ordinances of the town, are recoverable by the general laws of the Commonwealth, and in the modes severally prescribed in the Code of Virginia of 1873, and any subsequent amendments. When collected, they shall be equally divided between the informer and the town treasury; and shall be paid over *forthwith* by the officer to the Treasurer, or, in his absence, to the Mayor, or the Council at its next meeting.

Sec. 2. The husband, parent, guardian or master shall be liable for any fine incurred by his wife, minor child, ward or apprentice.

CHAPTER XIII.

A certified copy of an Ordinance shall be evidence in any legal proceedings, when applicable.

CHAPTER XIV.

These Ordinances shall be in force from this date; and all Ordinances, or parts of Ordinances, coming in conflict with them, are hereby repealed.

Annual Statement of the Treasurer of the Town of Smithfield

FOR THE YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 1st, 1909

Paid Interest on Bonds,	\$ 900.00	By Balance in hand Sept. 1st, 1908,	\$ 1,538.72
Paid Insurance on Buildings,	58.50	Taxes Collected,	4,013.84
Paid for Support of Poor,	305.08	Licenses Collected,	2,622.30
Paid for Water Supply,	600.00	Fines Collected,	485.97
Paid for Police,	623.36	Hall Rent Collected,	61.00
Paid for Lights,	1,072.37	Stand Rent Collected,	45.00
Paid for Repairs at Gas Plant,	119.17	Miscellaneous Collections,	333.83
Paid for Street Expense,	1,849.20		
Paid Miscellaneous,	940.72		
To Balance,	2,631.36		
	<u>\$ 9,100.66</u>		<u>\$ 9,100.66</u>

By Balance, \$ 2,631.36

SCHOOL FUND.

Paid School Orders,	\$ 5,186.43	By Balance in hand Sept. 1st, 1908,	\$ 2,030.94
Paid Miscellaneous Items,	260.79	Taxes Collected,	3,117.14
To Balance,	143.04	Tuition Collected,	442.18
	<u>\$ 5,590.26</u>		<u>\$ 5,590.26</u>

By Balance, \$ 143.04

GAS ACCOUNT FROM JUNE 1st, 1908, TO JUNE 1st, 1909.

Paid Standard Oil Co.,	\$ 2,017.76	Received for Gas Sold,	\$ 2,594.21
Paid Lamp Lighter,	278.70	Book Accounts Uncollected,	93.64
Paid Rent for Plant,	150.00	7 Barrels Oil in Stock,	77.00
Paid for Mantels,	60.00	4 Barrels Old Oil in Stock,	16.00
Paid Water Co.,	23.36		
Paid Miscellaneous Expenses,	141.78		
Net Gain,	109.15		
	<u>\$ 2,780.85</u>		<u>\$ 2,780.85</u>
Repairs Paid by Gen. Fund,	\$ 119.17	Profit and Loss,	\$ 109.15
		Net Loss for the Year,	10.02
			<u>\$ 119.17</u>

We, John I. Cofer and Walter C. Ames, the Auditing Committee appointed by the Mayor of the town of Smithfield, have audited the books and accounts of J. W. Holloway, Treasurer of the Town of Smithfield, three times during the fiscal year and find the same correct to the best of our knowledge and belief.

JOHN I. COFER,
WALTER C. AMES,
Auditing Committee.

LIABILITIES.

Bal. Bonds Issued to Buy Lot and Build a Jail, and Build Sidewalks,	\$ 2,500.00
Bonds Issued to Build Streets and Sidewalks,	5,000.00
Bonds Issued to Buy High School Buildings,	10,000.00

ASSETS.



the first house erected on lot No. 5, after the settlement of the colony by the white race. (Now owned and occupied by Richard B. Chapman.) Wm. H. Jordan died in 1865, and these premises comprised the residence of his widow, Mrs. Mary, nee Wrenn, until her death in 187—. In the settlement of her estate this property was divided and sold, lots 3 and 4 to W. F. Jordan. The dwelling and lot No. 5, with some land back of lots 5, 6 and 7, were bought by Jas. A. Brown, and the land behind lots 1 and 2, owned by E. M. Todd, which extends to and includes the wharf, by P. D. Gwaltney. On the wharf property Mr. Gwaltney put up a storehouse, where with O. G. Delk he conducted the sale of general merchandise, in connection with a Norfolk packet. For one or more years after the death of W. F. Jordan, in 188—, his widow, Ellen M., nee Wilson, occupied the premises. I may say here that in 17— Geo. Purdie, Sr., purchased the marsh land between the northeastern boundary of lot 1 and the creek.

Lot No. 6—On this lot, adjoining Geo. Purdie on the southwest, there was until 1826 a dwelling whose appearance suggested its construction before 1752. It was of wood, one-story, sharp roof, end to the street, through which was the main entrance, and it ran back the length of two rooms, some 30 feet. It was the residence in 1815 of an old man and his wife (his name I have forgotten), and his successor was John Womble, who settled in Smithfield after the War of 1812 and began the mercantile business. Wm. Lightfoot, another small merchant, was the next owner and occupant of the premises. Success in business enabled him to increase his family comforts, and business conveniences, by the erection of a new dwelling in place of the old, and the improvement of the storehouse. Before 1861 Mr. Lightfoot was appointed postmaster, when, having closed his other business, he used the storeroom as a postoffice until his death in 186—. His widow continued to occupy the property until her death in 186—. The next owner was Jno. G. Womble. After he vacated lot 6, Mr. Womble converted the store into a dwelling which, and one-half of the lot, he sold to Emmet W. Wilson, and the other half, on which was his former residence, is now occupied by V. C. Batten. (House now owned by C. S. Betts and moved to rear of lot to make room for his storehouse.)

Lot No. 7—(Recently occupied by W. J. Briggs—now owned by A. Cofer.) One of the few brick houses standing within the bounds of Smithfield when incorporated, is yet on this lot No. 7. From tradition, it was in early times (perhaps in 1751) used as a public house, an "Ordinary," as taverns were then called. For some years of my childhood it was kept as such by Wilson Davis. Mr. Davis purchased the house opposite in 1816 and used the rooms as sleeping apartments for his boarders. A few years after Mr. Davis vacated it, the owner and occupant was M. M. R. Todd, until the death of his mother in 1832, when, as the residuary heir of his father, he took possession of lots Nos. 1 and 2, and moved into the dwelling on lot 2. Of the several tenants who occupied the lot before Mr. Todd, I remember Nath'l Young, Jas. Atkinson and Edward Lanier; and of those after Mr. Todd, and before the Vestry of Newport Parish bought it, Jas. W. Wheadon, Reuben Butler, and perhaps others.

In 1854 the Vestry of Christ Church, Newport Parish, purchased the premises for a rectory, and as such it was first occupied by Rev. Chauncy Colton, D. D. The next two successive rectors of the parish were Patrick G. Robert and Edward Perkins. When in 1861, hostilities were inevitable, Mr. Robert had charge of Christ Church. Being an ardent secessionist, he promptly resigned, settled his family in Greenville County, and entered the service as a fighting parson. He is now, and has been since the war, the rector of a church in St. Louis, Mo. In the fall of 1861 Rev. Edward Perkins accepted a call to the charge, and held it until June, 1862. The resignation of Mr. Perkins was somewhat notable. The several ports in the vicinity of Smithfield were evacuated the 12th of May, 1862. Before, or soon after, the 1st of June, the first visit from the Yankee army was made in three gunboats, with a detachment of armed men. They marched through the streets without injury to persons or property, but before leaving they required the mayor, S. J. Wilson, to display the United States flag from his office door. When the order was, under coercion, executed, the party left for their post at Newport.

lots 3 to 24 are occupied by J. O. [name omitted] (now E. H. [name omitted]).

There was a dwelling which was owned by a person named Archer, and had been [name omitted]. At my earliest recollection the lot [name omitted], my father, was vacant, and was [name omitted]. There were two houses in 1752, each [name omitted] says they were owned and used, [name omitted] the western as a mercantile business, Lancaster, a firm of Scotch merchants. Geo. Purdie, a young Scotchman, was [name omitted] was then conducted by the firm [name omitted] & Co. The senior partner, John [name omitted] interest in the business to Geo. Purdie. After his death [name omitted] Geo. Purdie acquired this real [name omitted] lot 5. At the close of the Revolution, Purdie made improvements to the [name omitted] building of two stories, which filled [name omitted] the two old ones; and raised the old [name omitted] making it uniform in height and [name omitted] dwelling. The original dwelling did not [name omitted] with the new two-storied addition it [name omitted] Mr. Purdie until his death in 1804. [name omitted] had not been built on, and constituted [name omitted] the residence. Some years before his [name omitted] a piece of land between the south- [name omitted] lots and the lands of Thos. Pierce, on [name omitted] a family cemetery, and in it are [name omitted] also my paternal and [name omitted].

A. this time, lots 1 to 24 are occupied by J. O. on the west. A. P. Chapman; names omitted above (new E. H. Thomas and L. P. Seward). Williams and W. T. Seward).

the first house erected on lot No. 5, after the settlement of the colony by the white race. (Now owned and occupied by Richard B. Chapman.) Wm. H. Jordan died in 1865, and these premises comprised the residence of his widow, Mrs. Mary, nee Wierni, until her death in 187—. In the settlement of her estate this property was divided and sold, lots 3 and 4 to W. F. Jordan. The dwelling and lot No. 5, with some land back of lots 5, 6 and 7, were bought by Jas. A. Brown, and the land behind lots 1 and 2, owned by E. M. Todd, which extends to and includes the wharf, by P. D. Gwaltney. On the wharf property Mr. Gwaltney put up a storehouse, where with O. G. Delk he conducted the sale of general merchandise, in connection with a Norfolk packet. For one or more years after the death of W. F. Jordan, in 188—, his widow, Ellen M., nee Wilson, occupied the premises. I may say here that in 17— Geo. Purdie, Sr., purchased the marsh land between the northeastern boundary of lot 1 and the creek.

Lot N. 6.—On this lot, adjoining Geo. Purdie on the south-west, there was until 1826 a dwelling whose appearance suggested its construction before 1752. It was of wood, one-story, sharp roof, end to the street, through which was the main entrance, and it ran back the length of two rooms, some 30 feet. It was the residence in 1815 of an old man and his wife (his name I have forgotten), and his successor was John Womble, who settled in Smithfield after the War of 1812 and began the mercantile business. Wm. Lightfoot, another small merchant, was the next owner and occupant of the premises. Success in business enabled him to increase his family comforts, and business conveniences, by the erection of a new dwelling in place of the old, and the improvement of the storehouse. Before 1861 Mr. Lightfoot was appointed postmaster, when, having closed his other business, he used the storehouse as a postoffice until his death in 186—. His widow continued to occupy the property until her death in 186—. The next owner was Jno. G. Womble. After he vacated lot 6, Mr. Womble converted the store into a dwelling which, and one-half of the lot, he sold to Emmet W. Wilson, and the other half, on which was his former residence, is now occupied by V. C. Batten. (House now owned by C. S. Betts and moved to rear of lot to make room for his storehouse.)

Lot No. 7—(Recently occupied by W. J. Briggs—now owned by A. Coker.) One of the few brick houses standing within the bounds of Smithfield when incorporated, is yet on this lot No. 7. From tradition, it was in early times (perhaps in 1751) used as a public house, an "Ordinary," as taverns were then called. For some years of my childhood it was kept as such by Wilson Davis. Mr. Davis purchased the house opposite in 1816 and used the rooms as sleeping apartments for his boarders. A few years after Mr. Davis vacated it, the owner and occupant was M. M. R. Todd, until the death of his mother in 1832, when, as the residuary heir of his father, he took possession of Lots Nos. 1 and 2, and moved into the dwelling on lot 2. Of the several tenants who occupied the lot before Mr. Todd, I remember Nathl Young, Jas. Atkinson and Edward Lanier; and of those after Mr. Todd, and before the Vastary of Newport Parish bought it, Jas. W. Wheadon, Reuben Butler, and perhaps others.

In 1854 the Vestry of Christ Church, Newport Parish, purchased the premises for a meeting-house.

die, who carried it on after the death of Lancaster, until his death in 1802. By bequest and purchase, Geo. Purdie acquired this real property, to which he added lot 5. At the close of the Revolutionary War in 1784-5, Mr. Purdie made improvements to the houses by erecting a frame building of two stories, which filled the space of 20 feet between the two old ones; and raised the old store by the addition of a story, making it uniform in height and appearance with the new dwelling. The original dwelling did not receive a second story, and with the new two-storied addition it was the family residence of Mr. Purdie until his death in 1804. Until late years lot No. 5 had not been built on, and constituted a large part of the garden of the residence. Some years before his death, Mr. Purdie purchased a piece of land between the southwest back line of his town lots and the lands of Thos. Pierce, on a portion of which he defined a family cemetery, and in it are interred the remains of himself; also my paternal and maternal grandmothers, my father, mother, and five brothers and sisters. The second son of Geo. Purdie was Dr. Jno. H. Purdie, who was the residuary legatee of these lots, and after the death of his mother in 1810, he took possession and resided thereon until 1841. In this old mansion the first mental impressions were made on my infant mind; in the yards and garden were enjoyed the fondest pleasures of my childhood; here I encountered the crosses and trials of early manhood, the troubles and difficulties of my early professional life. In 1841 Dr. Jno. H. Purdie sold the property to Wm. H. Jordan, and by deed conveyed his right and title to all his real estate (save the family cemetery and right of way to it).

The first dwelling on lot 4 was taken to pieces by Jordan and erected on the southwestern side of lot 5, which is the property of Jas. A. Brown, and now occupied by Mrs. Julia, the widow of Geo. T. Carroll. There is good authority for saying that this was

THE SMITHFIELD TIMES, 1 YEAR \$2 PICTORIAL REVIEW, 8 MONTHS \$2

tors of the parish were Patrick G. Robert and Edward Perkins. When in 1861, hostilities were inevitable, Mr. Robert had charge of Christ Church. Being an ardent secessionist, he promptly resigned, settled his family in Greeneville County, and entered the service as a fighting parson. He is now, and has been since the war, the rector of a church in St. Louis, Mo. In the fall of 1861 Rev. Edward Perkins accepted a call to the charge, and held it until June, 1862. The resignation of Mr. Perkins was somewhat notable. The several ports in the vicinity of Smithfield were evacuated the 12th of May, 1862. Before, or soon after, the 1st of June, the first visit from the Yankee army was made in three gunboats, with a detachment of armed men. They marched through the streets without injury to persons or property, but before leaving they required the mayor, S. J. Wilson, to display the United States flag from his office door. When the order was under coercion, executed, the party left for their post at Newport News. As soon as Mr. Perkins heard of the compliance by the mayor with the Yankee order, he went to the office, pulled the rag from the door, and threw it into a disused town well. This act of Mr. Perkins jeopardized a continuance of his family in Smithfield, and through the persuasion of his friends he moved his wife and children to a place deemed safe, and he entered the service, became a general chaplain, and often a special messenger of General Robt. E. Lee. Now, as Rev. Ed. Perkins, D. D., he has charge of a church in Louisville, Kentucky. After the resignation of Rev. Perkins, and the surrender of the Confederate armies, the vestry made improvements to the dwelling which added much to its convenience.

A native of Smithfield, born in 1770, has told me that one Richard Taylor kept the tavern on these premises before Wilson Davis, and that, about that time the brick house now occupied by Jno. Purvis, shoemaker, was erected. (Owned now by Webb Chapman and used as storage house.) In those days there were no stringent laws in Virginia against gaming, and those on our statutes were nearly inoperative. I have learned from those who were present and participants that gambling with cards was

(Continued on Next Page.)

THE HISTORY OF SMITHFIELD

(Continued from Preceding Page.)

openly practised in the public rooms of the taverns here and elsewhere. In extension of the limited convenience of the old tavern, and its contracted accommodations, this house was built, and the lower room devoted to games of cards and billiards, and hence was for years called the Billiard Room. The enactment of laws to diminish and restrain games of chance neutralized the main purpose for which this house was established, and consequently it was rented out for various uses. I remember it as a ball room, dancing school, show house, cabinet maker's shop, etc.

In 182— M. M. R. Todd, the then owner, opened a general store in it. Other merchants, i. e., Todd, and S. White, his first clerk, under the firm name of Todd & White, White & Dickson, and S. White, used it as a place of business. Very soon after the parish Vestry acquired title to the lot, and to complete the transfer of it from M. M. R. Todd, the grantor, they sold to Rev. Wm. Colona that third part of the lot on which the former Billiard Room is standing. Before, and during, and perhaps after the war for secession, it was occupied as a residence by Doctor Briggs; Mrs. Patsy, widow of G. O. F. Andrews; Mrs. Evalina B., widow of Geo. W. Purdie, the two last keeping there a school for small children. (Present owner, D. W. Chapman.)

Lot No. 8—This lot is on the southwest corner of Main and Mason Streets, and on it are three brick buildings; that one near the middle and fronting on Main Street is the residence of I. O. Thomas; the one on the southwest corner of the streets is now the shoe shop of Jas. Ash, colored; and the third, on the southwest corner of the lot, and fronting on West Mason Street, is the present residence of A. D. Carter. When the town was incorporated, and how many years before 1752 I dare not say, the present dwelling of I. O. Thomas was the county court house; the shoe shop on the corner was the office of the clerk of the court in 1799; and the residence of A. D. Carter was the original county jail. That the clerk's office was built in 1799 appears from that date having been inscribed on a brick that was placed over the door. When the court house and jail were erected is not so clear. Tradition says that, in the early part of the last (18th) century, the seat of justice in Isle of Wight was located on what is now the poorhouse farm (S. G. Turner now resides thereon). The date of its removal to Smithfield cannot be ascertained from the extant order books of the court, or county records; nor is the construction of public buildings at this place therein mentioned. The seat of justice was transferred to its present location in 1800, and the first court held there was in January of that year. For some years after the old court house was abandoned by the judicial authorities, the principal use to which it was appropriated was as a place for religious services, by visiting ministers of any denomination. I remember, when three years old, being carried to the old court house, on a Sunday morning, by my colored mammy nurse (Tena), when Mr. Brown, a Baptist minister, officiated.

In 1808, or '9, Doctor Robt. Butler located in Smithfield as a

(Continued on Next Page.)

DAILY PRESS - JANUARY 22, 1978

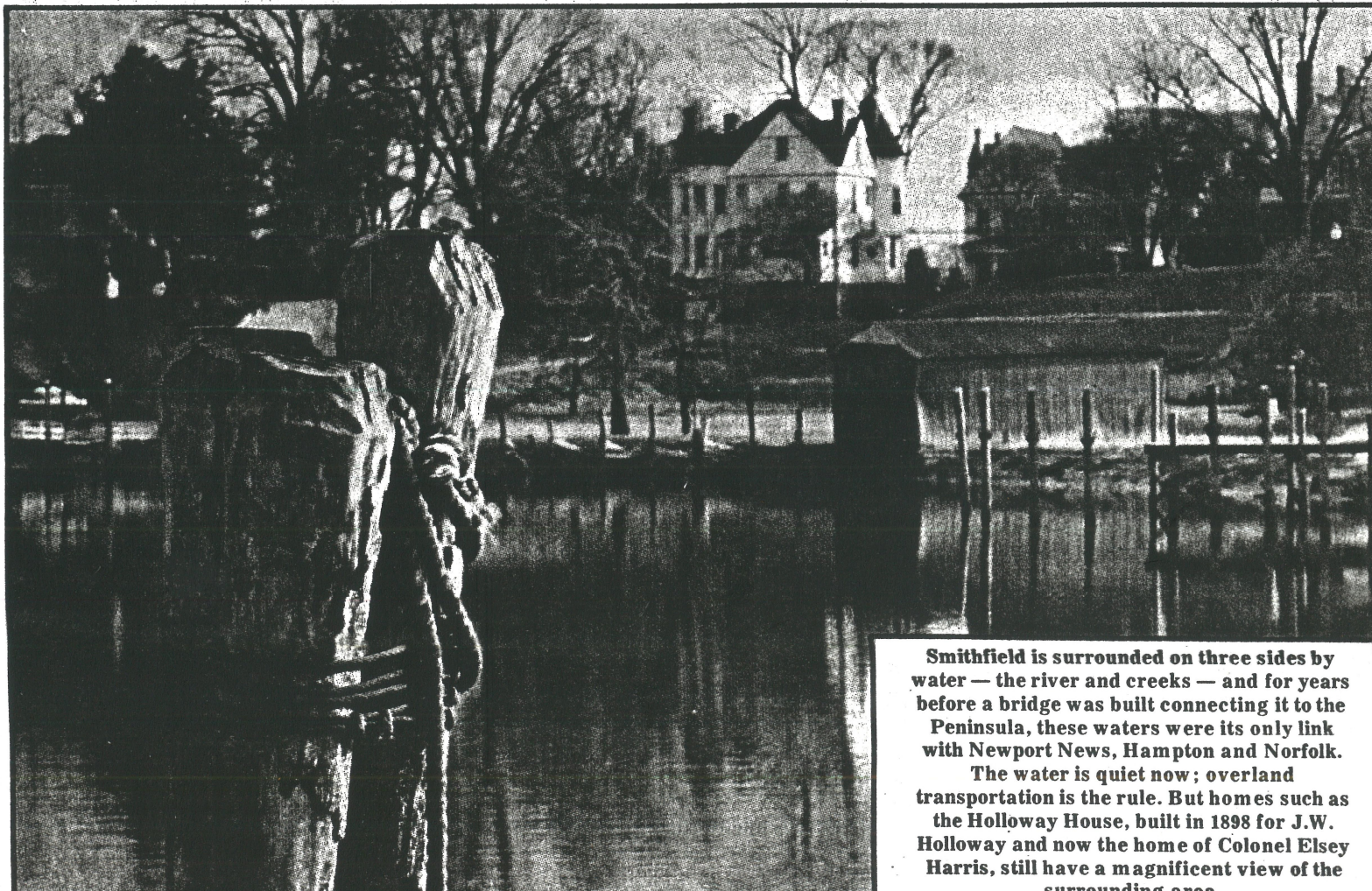
(ORIGINAL OF THIS ARTICLE IS IN THE
REGULAR LIBRARY FILE UNDER SMITHFIELD)

Smithfield Is Much More Than A Ham



This lovely restored dwelling on Main Street is the Britt-Simpson house, now the home of Mr. and Mrs. L.C. Hinson. Several other old homes along this part of Main Street have undergone extensive renovation by the current owners.

by Susan Bruno



Smithfield is surrounded on three sides by water — the river and creeks — and for years before a bridge was built connecting it to the Peninsula, these waters were its only link with Newport News, Hampton and Norfolk.

The water is quiet now; overland transportation is the rule. But homes such as the Holloway House, built in 1898 for J.W. Holloway and now the home of Colonel Elsey Harris, still have a magnificent view of the

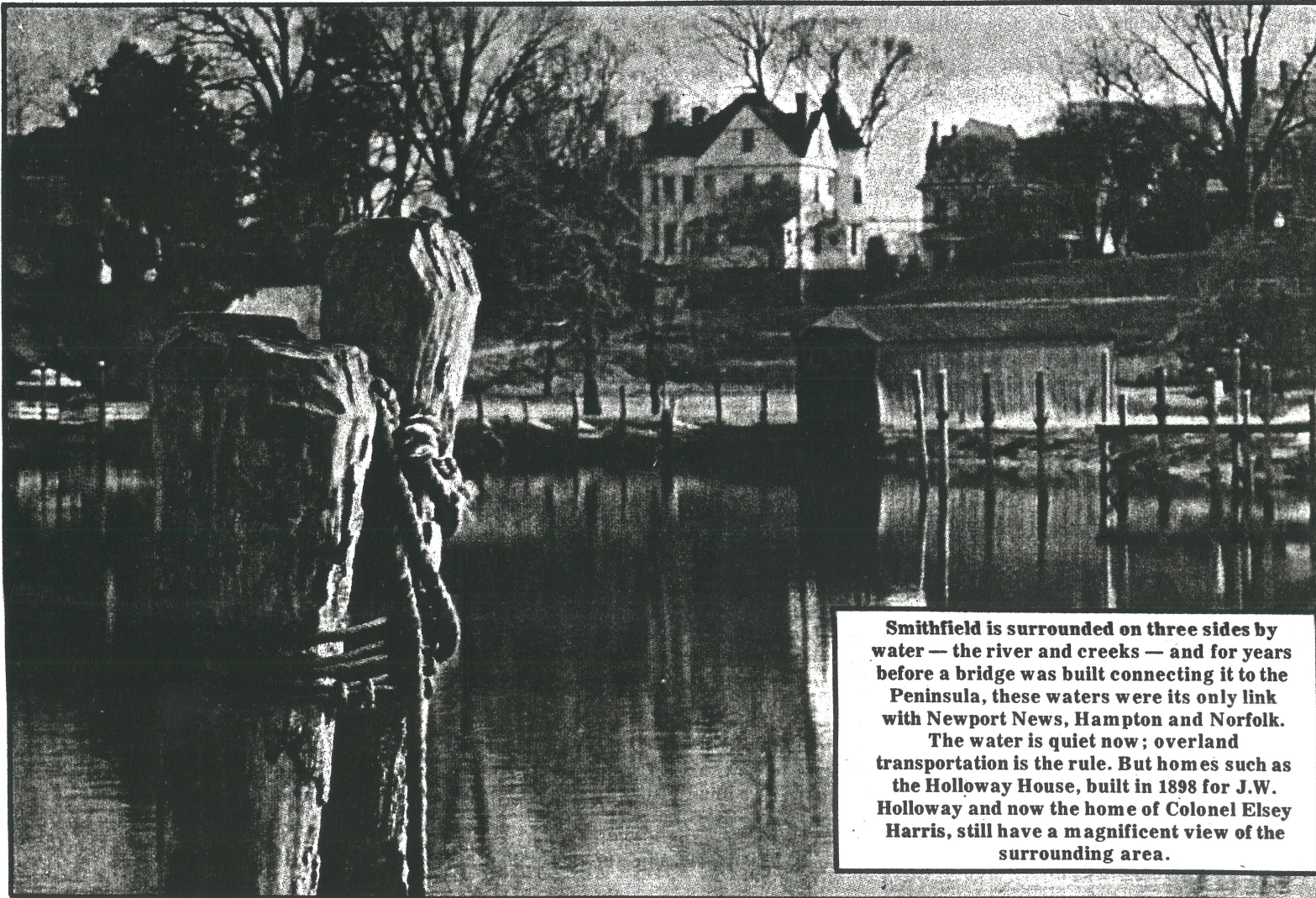
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which still stands at the foot of Wharf Hill in the restored, older
- section of Smithfield.

According to Segar Cofer Dashiell, author and native of
Smithfield who has recently completed a book entitled "A
Pictorial History of Smithfield," legend has it that Todd did,

continued on 14



photos by
Herb Barnes

This unusual old house, known as the Valentine House, is now
owned by the Smithfield Historical Society. It is one house
which holds great significance for Segar Dashiell as it is the
house in which her father was born. Built in the mid-1700s,
the Valentine House has undergone several additions and
changes. Mrs. Dashiell remembers it when it was painted a
light color with screened porches on the facade.

THIS may come as a surprise to some, but Smithfield is more than a ham...Smithfield is a growing, prospering town located about 15 miles southwest of Newport News on the opposite side of the James River Bridge.

Granted, Smithfield is, indeed, the home of the world famous ham — but the locale itself prospered long before that first ham was ever cured. And although the town was legally chartered as early as 1752, it boasted a large settlement on the Pagan River with a booming agricultural and water trade at least a hundred years prior to that. In fact, the county courthouse, clerk's office and jail (all still standing, by the way) were erected in the center of Smithfield even before it became a town!

Arthur Smith, second cousin of Captain John Smith, was given the distinct task of laying out a portion of his vast, inherited landholding in the area into streets and lots thus establishing Smithfield (named after him) as a town proper — a town unique in several aspects.

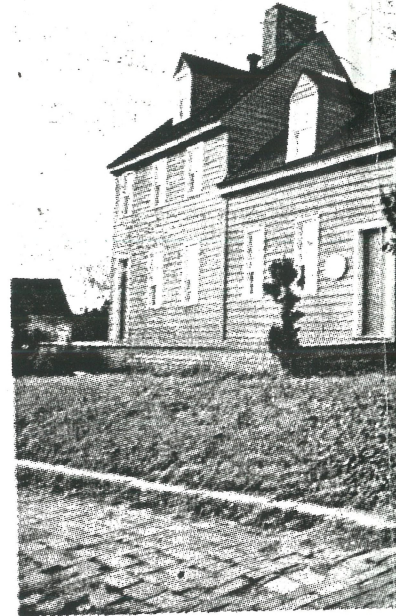
The town grew as an agricultural and shipping center whose principal "industry" was wholly agriculturally-based. The peanut and the ham — both locally tended — were the basis of Smithfield's economic prosperity. But export of these products was not limited by any means to trade exclusively within the American colonies. A major part of the town's trade was conducted along the coast and down into several British strongholds in the West Indies.

Unlike other areas in America, Smithfield continued to maintain very close ties with Britain — so much so that during the Revolution, Smithfield had a large population of Tories in residence.

Successful trade in bacon from Smithfield could be credited with the rise of the ham business. Early records show business transactions for ham taking place as far back as the late 1770s. This industry is said to have begun with one Mallory Todd, who supposedly started his business in the basement of his house,

which still stands at the
section of Smithfield.

According to Segar
Smithfield who has r
Pictorial History of S



photos by
Herb Barnes

indeed, initiate the ham trade, but she hardly believes it actually took place in the basement of the grand, old estate "without stinking up the whole house." She contends it was more likely cured in the basement with the rest of the process taking place in a no longer standing outbuilding behind the house.

Mrs. Dashiell's recollections of Smithfield are numerous and wonderful — and a sight more personal than any history you'll ever find in a history book. "A Pictorial History of Smithfield" is imbued with the same flavor, personality and freshness as her recollections.

Earliest recollections paint the town as a "pleasant and peaceful place to grow up in," says Mrs. Dashiell, who has written articles on her beloved Smithfield for both the DAILY PRESS and the SMITHFIELD TIMES for the past 15 years. "It was a small town then with a population of about 1,000...Everyone knew everyone."

In her estimation, Smithfield has successfully maintained that early character. "That's what we're fighting for," she says of the population that has more than tripled in size. "We don't want to lose our identity."

THE Isle of Wight Courthouse, built in Smithfield in 1750, was the first municipal building to be restored, an undertaking which took place in 1960. "Smithfield has become conscious in the last 15 years of the importance of preserving these old buildings — particularly since we saved the courthouse...Today, cutting down a tree is something you don't want to do."

Mrs. Dashiell, who lives now in the same house she was born in, has seen many of Smithfield's fine, old homes — many of which are equally historical — undergo renovation.

The old section of Smithfield is encompassed by natural boundaries — those being the creek cutting across both ex-

The old jail on North Mason Street was built in 1799, and although it is now a private residence, it is still standing.



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three large ham and ham-products producing factories — the present day relatives of the early Smithfield ham producers.

"Change has been gradual here," admits Mrs. Dashiell, who simultaneously points out that the town's booming industry thrived in spite of the fact that it relied solely on waterborn transportation.

"Old Smithfield never had a railroad," she laughs. Seems the folks in town never really minded this transportation oversight; after all, a nonexistent railway can't import any "bad element" from outlying areas. Besides, no one in town could ever find themselves living "on the wrong side of the track!"

Mrs. Dashiell, who has been a resident of Smithfield continuously (with the exception of the 43 years she lived outside town, but still in the county), has watched the face of her birthplace undergo myriad changes. The very face — or surface — of Main Street has gone from dirt to granite to brick to blacktop (as have the accompanying sidewalks.)

"We had lovely brick sidewalks throughout town," recalls Mrs. Dashiell of her childhood. "But you couldn't skate on them," she continues. "They were just too bumpy. Now they're trying to get

back down to those brick sidewalks again!"

But passing time has not been kind to Smithfield in all respects. Gone is the wharf for which Wharf Hill derives its name. Gone are the churning steamboats that pulled up to that wharf.

The Pagan River still flows — and legends of its naming still pass from generation to generation. Some believe the body of water is named for the Indian tribe that lived nearby — the tribe which tried to wipe out early civilization in Smithfield. Others contend the river is named after a godless old man who refused to go to church and who lived off the river. Mrs. Dashiell admits she isn't sure if either of these tales provide the truth about the Pagan's namesake.

In any case, it isn't hard to understand why Smithfield is adamant about being known for more than her ham trade. The more time you spend in the town, the more interesting facts you'll learn about it. For instance, did you know that the infamous Benedict Arnold occupied the town in 1781? Or that the town was the site of several skirmishes during the War Between the States?

Smithfield is, indeed, a town that is full of fascinating surprises! □

tremities of Church Street — and it is therefore easier to preserve the old charm of the small area. Immediately upon entering the city limits, old Church Street, which winds its way up into the heart of the old town, is lined up and down with large, mostly Victorian homes — many of which have been beautifully restored.

Since Smithfield is thriving basically along two main thoroughfares (Church Street and Main Street), it is easy to take in many of the historic remnants of Old Smithfield with no logistical problems whatsoever.

Along Main Street is the county courthouse mentioned previously, the Isle of Wight Museum, the famous Smithfield Inn built in 1752, the Valentine House (now owned by the Smithfield Historical Society), Hayden's Lane leading up to the old Hayden estate and other fine restored homes, such as the Todd House at the foot of old Wharf Hill.

Off of Main Street there are sights to see on the small side streets, such as the quaint Smithfield Academy (once a school for young men) on South Mason and the old jail (built in 1799) and stately "Grove" on North Mason.

Just north of the creek is the "industrial" center of Smithfield, the site of

three large ham and ham-products producing factories — the present day relatives of the early Smithfield ham producers.

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But pass Smithfield wharf for name. Gone that pulled

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Smithfield— A Small-Town Antique

In Smithfield, Virginia, they don't measure their history by decades or even by scores of years. They measure it, instead, by full centuries—all the way back to the early 1600's when English settlers began to arrive, sailing up the wide James River to a new and wild homeland. To this day, Smithfield retains traces of those earliest years. They persist in its memories, in its pride of the past, and they live on in its buildings and tranquil, crisscrossing streets.

Officially incorporated by Virginia's General Assembly in 1752, the town draws its current reputation from the world-famous Smithfield ham. Now produced by large companies, these classic hams have become legend with a history of their own. Colonists learned early how to cut and carefully cure the razorback hogs they trapped in the Virginia wilderness. According to one history, a Capt. Malory Todd established the first curing and shipping business in Smithfield in the mid-18th century. Records show that he was shipping his hams to the West Indies and elsewhere by 1779. Tradition, too, holds that Queen Victoria would serve Smithfield ham on state occasions. Still, this town has a personality apart from its best known product.

Born on the banks of the Pagan River, Smithfield lies some 13 miles west of Newport News. It began and thrived as a river



Started in the 1650's, Smithfield boasts buildings and fine homes from that era onward, including this Victorian house on Church Street. Photographs: Geoffrey Gilbert

town, a shipping center during the era of sail. Soon after its founding, it became the seat of Isle of Wight County, and a sturdy, brick courthouse was constructed to hold court-day proceedings every month. Around 1800 the county seat was moved, but the Old Courthouse, restored in the 1960's, still stands. It now houses the local chamber of commerce, which distributes

tourist information and a pamphlet for a self-guided walking tour of town.

The buildings singled out on the tour are among the town's oldest. The tour covers several streets, including Church, Grace, and Main, whose youngest house dates to 1855. Also along the way, though, are fine examples of graceful Victorian homes, elaborate in design and rich in the extra-

The town of Smithfield grew up as a shipping port along the banks of the Pagan River, just up the James River from Norfolk.





Today, Smithfield is best known for its specially cured hams, now produced by major companies.

gant detailing of the time. While these younger homes are not marked on the first brochure, a new Victorian-era walking tour is being prepared. However, the first tour does point out the older Smithfield landmarks, such as the Colonial Inn on Main Street.

Started as an inn back in 1759, it has been just that for most of its years. Now managed by Ronnie and Deniece Taylor, it offers guestrooms and serves lunch and dinner daily except Monday. Ronnie mentions that the house specialty is, of course, Smithfield ham—served alone or with fried chicken. The rocking chairs on the front porch provide a good vantage point from which to absorb something of the town and its flavor.

"People like the inn," explains Ronnie, "because they say they go back in time

here, but it's a homey place, too." As for Smithfield, where he has lived for four years, he says aptly, "It's a quiet, little, laid-back Southern town to me. It's got that small-town charm, an atmosphere all its own, really."

Across Main Street from the inn stands the former Bank of Smithfield, which now houses the Isle of Wight County Museum. There permanent displays and changing exhibits tell the story of the town and its eras. "When they started the museum," says Nelle Pitman, museum curator, "a lot of area residents came and donated things they thought should be saved." Among the permanent exhibits are such things as the world's largest and oldest Smithfield hams, the old post boxes from Carrollton, and Indian artifacts uncovered along the James and Blackwater Rivers.

Not all the noteworthy places lie in the heart of town. One is the Surrey House Restaurant, located in the nearby town of Surry and known best for its Virginia ham and peanut dishes, such as Peanut Raisin Pie. A second, newer place is a modern, elegantly furnished bed-and-breakfast spot, the Isle of Wight Inn in Smithfield.

A third, St. Luke's Church, sits just south of town off to the side of State 10, settled in among gravestones. Called "Old Brick," this church is the nation's only original Gothic church and the oldest existing church of English foundation in America. Erected around 1632, it carries an almost-medieval air about it. With square tower and stepped gables, built from local clay bricks, it was meant to last a proud eternity.

Inside, it still contains its rood screen and communion table, a 17th-century silver baptismal basin, and a rare, small church organ made in England around 1665. The interior, with its heart pine pews and rich stained-glass windows, has a simple elegance, a majesty to it that was well conceived by its builders. Like Smithfield, St. Luke's is a place with a memory and atmosphere all its own.

The Isle of Wight County Museum is open and free of charge 1 to 5 p.m. on Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, and 1:30 to 6 p.m. on Sunday. St. Luke's is open for free tours 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day. Hours at the Isle of Wight/Smithfield Chamber of Commerce are 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday. To learn more, write Isle of Wight/Smithfield Chamber of Commerce, Box 38, Smithfield, Virginia 23430; or telephone (804) 357-3502.

St. Luke's Church, built in the 1630's, reflects the influence of Europe's Gothic-era cathedrals.

